We believe everyone deserves access to a good job and good food.

We are a non-profit urban farm & workforce development center serving Greater Englewood through our life-changing paid workforce development programs & local, fresh affordable food and education programs.

Englewood & many communities of color in Chicago need investment. The effects of structural racism, historic segregation and systemic disinvestment continue to challenge our communities and neighborhoods today. As a means of restorative justice, we are committed to providing significant re-investment in Englewood and serve as a resource through our Food Access and Workforce Development programs.

AT-A-GLANCE

WE’RE THE FIRST AND ONLY HIGH-PRODUCTION USDA-CERTIFIED ORGANIC URBAN FARM IN CHICAGO! WE MAKE ORGANIC PRODUCE ACCESSIBLE & AFFORDABLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. WE PAY! ONLY A HANDFUL OF JOB PROGRAMS PAY THEIR PARTICIPANTS. WE HELP PEOPLE STAY OUT OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. WE ARE A BLACK- AND WOMEN-LED NON-PROFIT WITH MANY STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE ALUMNI OF OUR PROGRAM, ENSURING OUR WORK TRULY REFLECTS THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY.
Growing Home’s Employment Training Program supports those with the highest barriers to employment as we work to increase employment access equity in Chicago.

Our Programs
- A 12-week paid transitional employment and job readiness program for adults with barriers to employment (includes robust Classroom Curriculum, On-The-Job Training & Wrap-Around Services)
- 34+ Employer Partner Program
- Lifetime Alumni Resources & Network
- *NEW*: Apprenticeship Program with Olive Harvey College
- *NEW*: Free Neighborhood Computer & Job Resource Center

Our Participants in 2021
- 64% live in Englewood
- Range in age from 18 to 62, a median age of 32
- 90% are African American or Black
- 45% are female, and 55% are male
- 50% have minor children
- 87% have been justice-involved
- 100% of our participants are low-income

OUR IMPACT

76 Production Assistants Enrolled in 2021 (38% increase from previous years)

500+ Alumni served through our on-going post graduation support

71% Percentage that our Employment Training Program reduces recidivism compared to Illinois state average

78% of Graduates report decrease in health & mental health barriers

"I was getting every door closed in my face until I came to Growing Home. Growing Home teaches you the information you’ll need to bring the best out of yourself."

- ANTONIO, 2021 GRADUATE -
FRESH FOOD ACCESS & EDUCATION

Growing Home’s Food Access program works on many levels to support the Englewood economy and create a healthier food system that addresses the effects and persistence of food insecurity.

Our Programs

Fresh Food
- Local Produce Stands with Double Value for Public Assistance & Senior Coupons
- CSA Program of Bi-Weekly Food Boxes
- Weekly Deliveries to local Food Pantry
- Veggie RX Partnerships
- Covid–19 Emergency Food Relief Initiative
- Pop-ups, Donation Events

Education
- In–Person & Online Cooking Demos & Recipes
- Adult & Youth Workshops
- Volunteering & Tours
- Community Events: Open Houses and seasonal festivals, i.e. HarvestFest, WinterFest
- Experimental Community Garden

Our Customers & Participants
- Residents + Seniors in & around Englewood
- Female headed single family homes
- Shelters & Soup Kitchens
- Food Depository patrons
- Youth & Adult Groups

OUR IMPACT

30,186+ lbs grown of fresh, organic vegetables

61% of our distribution in Greater Englewood (185% increase from 2019)

48,648 individual servings administered through our food & education programs

"Thank you very much for promoting good health. Thank you for all you have done and all you are going to do. God Bless."

- 2021 LOCAL CSA CUSTOMER -
Our essential work is only possibly because of our tremendous support from our Growing Home family, friends, donors and partners.

Our Employer Partners
To see our full list of employer partners, please visit our website: growinghomeinc.org/our-impact

Our Community Partners

Our Future Projects
- Full-Time Resource Center
- Employer Partner Growth
- Farm Expansion
- Growing Home Food Buggy
GET INVOLVED  GROWING HOME

Click below to get involved with Growing Home and be part of a team that is working to ensure Everyone has access to a Good Job and Good Food:

VOLUNTEER
TOUR OUR FARMS
BE AN EMPLOYER PARTNER
PURCHASE OUR PRODUCE
JOIN OUR ASSOCIATE BOARD
JOIN OUR TEAM
BE A MONTHLY DONOR
SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER